REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

By way of the amendment instructions above, the subject matter of claim 5 has been introduced into the amended version of claim 1. As such, claim 5 has been cancelled as redundant. Thus, the amended version of claim 1 now clarifies that component (C) is p-aminophenol.

Therefore, following entry of this amendment, claims 1-4 and 6-14 will remain pending herein for consideration, of which claim 1 is in independent format.

The only issues remaining to be resolved in this application are the Examiner's art-based rejections. Specifically, prior claims 1-12 attracted a rejection under 35 USC §103(a) as allegedly being "obvious", and hence unpatentable over Linstid III et al (USP 6,222,000). In addition, claims 13-14 attracted a rejection under the same statutory provision based on the combination of Linstid et al in view of Furuta et al (USP 5,612,101).[1] As will become evident from the following discussion, all pending claims herein are patentably distinguishable over the applied references of record.

In this regard, it will be observed that the present invention relates to a wholly aromatic polyester amide containing *p-aminophenol* as an essential claimed component. More specifically, the wholly aromatic polyester amide according to the present invention necessarily contains a p-aminophenol component at a ratio of 7 to 35 % by mole. Significantly, Linstid et al do not disclose at all in the Examples thereof a polymer containing p-aminophenol. The wholly aromatic polyester amide of the present

[1] Since the Examiner rejected claim 13 under 35 USC §103(a) based on a combination of Linstid et al in view of Furuta et al, it will be assumed that reference to claim 13 in the rejection based on Linstid et al alone was a mere typographical error and should have referenced claim 12. Thus, for purpose of this response, it will be assumed that claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) based on Linstid

invention is consequently not disclosed in Linstid et al and, as such, an ordinarily skilled person would not be lead to the presently claimed invention. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection advanced under 35 USC §103(a) based on Linstid et al is in order.

Nor does the combination of Linstid et al and Furuta et al render the presently claimed invention unpatentable under 35 USC §103(a). Specifically, Furuta merely discloses blending a liquid crystal polyester (LCP) with an olefin. As noted above, Linstid III et al would not direct and ordinarily skilled person to the wholly aromatic polyester amide which contains p-aminophenol as an essential claimed component. In this regard, if one assumes for the moment that p-aminophenol group might be selected among the other groups recited as recurring unit IV in claim 1 of Linstid et al, and if it is further assumed that isophthalic acid is selected as component Va, then the amount of such latter component would be from 7 to 15 mole%. Thus, even if an ordinarily skilled person would consider combining the LCP of Furuta with the wholly aromatic polyester of Linstid III et al, the present invention as defined by claims 13-14 would not be the result.

Withdrawal of the rejection advanced under 35 USC §103(a) based on the combination of Linstid et al and Furuta et al is also in order.

Applicants note the provisional double patenting rejection advanced on the basis of claims 1-5 and 12-25 of copending application Serial No. 10/538,845. A line of patentable demarcation is believed to exist as between the claims of the present application and the claims of the '845 application. Therefore, it is requested that the issue of same invention double patenting advanced in the subject official action has been resolved. Withdrawal of the same is believed to be in order.

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et al alone and that claims 13-14 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) based on the combination of Linstid et al in view of Furuta et al.

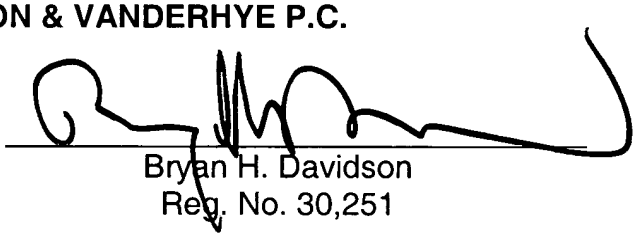
Every effort has been made to advance prosecution of this application to allowance. Therefore, in view of the amendments and remarks above, applicant suggests that all claims are in condition for allowance and Official Notice of the same is solicited.

Should any small matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney so that the same may be resolved without the need for an additional written action and reply.

An early and favorable reply on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

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